(3) The requirement that the holder have been a licensee for 1 year does not apply to this subsection.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

Approved April 25, 2002.

CHAPTER 238

(House Bill 710)

AN ACT concerning

Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County - Binding Arbitration

MC 209-02

FOR the purpose of requiring that collective bargaining between the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County and the exclusive representative of a bargaining unit for Commission employees begin each year not later than a certain date and end not later than a certain date; requiring that negotiations be conducted in good faith; establishing a procedure for resolving a negotiability dispute; repealing certain provisions authorizing the appointment of a fact finder and the use of fact-finding procedures when there is an impasse in collective bargaining between the Commission and the exclusive representative; establishing procedures requiring the appointment of a mediator-arbitrator and binding arbitration when there is an impasse; setting certain deadlines; requiring the mediator-arbitrator to take certain actions in determining a final reasonable offer; requiring the mediator-arbitrator to direct the parties to submit certain memoranda outlining previous offers and agreements and hold a nonpublic hearing to consider the proposals submitted by the parties; limiting the items which the mediator-arbitrator may consider in selecting a final offer; prohibiting the arbitrator from compromising or altering the final offer selected; providing that the parties need not ratify, but must execute, the final offer; providing that the economic terms of the final offer are subject to being funded by the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County Council; requiring the Commission to request appropriate funds for all economic provisions of the final agreement in the Commission's final budget; requiring the parties to reopen negotiations if the county council Commission does not fund all provisions of the final agreement; providing for the treatment of the final offer; requiring the parties to share equally in paying the costs of arbitration; making certain stylistic changes; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to procedures for the appointment of a mediator-arbitrator and binding arbitration in collective bargaining between the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County and the exclusive representative of a bargaining unit for Commission employees.